

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-15

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OES/NET/RD:MR BORIGHT
ACDA/NP:MR ROCHLIN
DOE:MR GIAMBUSSO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA

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VIENNA FOR USIAEA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, MNUC, TECH, PARM

SUBJECT: INFCE SCHEDULING

1. DDG JOHN HALL HAS ADVISED FARLEY INFORMALLY THAT THE AGENCY HAS ALREADY ENCOUNTERED PRACTICAL DIFFICULTIES IN SCHEDULING FACILITIES AND SERVICES FOR THE FINAL INFCE PLENARY, WHICH SHOULD COME AT THE END OF 1979 IF INFCE IS TO COMPLETE ITS WORK IN APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS; HALL FIRST ASKED ABOUT ACCEPTABILITY OF SLIPPING TO JANUARY 1980. HALL HAS NOW REPORTED DIFFICULTIES WITH THAT DATE ALSO, AND HAS SUGGESTED THE LAST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1979.

2. FARLEY POINTED OUT THAT THIS QUESTION OF SCHEDULING WAS OF CONCERN TO ALL PARTICIPANTS, AND PARTICULARLY CO-UNCLASSIFIED

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CHAIRMAN COUNTRIES, BUT DID NOT RULE OUT HALL'S SUGGESTION. ON REFLECTION, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT A LATE SEPTEMBER 1979 DATE MAY PUT AN EXCESSIVE SQUEEZE ON INFCE WORKING GROUPS. ON CURRENT ASSUMPTION OF A FINAL PLENARY IN NOVEMBER/ DECEMBER 1979, A NUMBER OF WORKING GROUPS ARE PLANNING THEIR SCHEDULES TO BUILD TO A FINAL WG MEETING AND COMPLETION OF WG REPORTS BY OCTOBER 1, 1979. FOR A LATE

NOVEMBER OR DECEMBER 1979 PLENARY, THIS WG SCHEDULE WOULD ALLOW A MONTH TO SIX WEEKS BETWEEN COMPLETION OF WG REPORTS

AND CONVENING OF PLENARY. THIS APPEARS TO BE A MINIMUM INTERVAL, AND PRESUMABLY THE TCC WILL NEED TO MEET AFTER COMPLETION OF WG REPORTS SO THAT IT CAN REPORT TO PLENARY AS CHARGED BY THE ORGANIZING CONFERENCE COMMUNIQUE. ANY SUMMARY OR UMBRELLA REPORT WOULD HAVE TO BE DEVELOPED WHILE WG REPORTS ARE STILL BEING FINISHED. THUS EVEN THE CURRENT SCHEDULE IS VERY TIGHT.

3. IF FINAL PLENARY IS TO BE HELD LAST WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1979, HOWEVER, WGS WOULD HAVE TO COMPRESS THEIR PLANS AND COMPLETE THEIR WORK IN JUNE OR JULY 1979 AS A PRACTICAL MATTER, IN VIEW OF THE INFEASIBILITY OF INTERNATIONAL MEE - INGS AND ORGANIZED WORK IN AUGUST. CONSIDERING WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE, WITH WGS JUST NOW ESTABLISHING THEIR WORK PROGRAMS, THIS APPEARS TO BE TOO MUCH ACCELERATION TO BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT HARMFUL IMPACT ON THE QUALITY OF THE INFCE PRODUCT.

4. THE MISSION IS REQUESTED TO ASCERTAIN CURRENT AGENCY THINKING AS TO SCHEDULING OF INFCE FINAL PLENARY. THE CONSIDERATIONS IDENTIFIED ABOVE MAY BE PUT TO AGENCY STAFF AND THE DESIRABILITY OF LOOKING AGAIN AT OTHER AND LESS RESTRICTIVE SCHEDULING POSSIBILITIES SHOULD BE POINTED

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OUT. AMBASSADOR SMITH MAY WANT TO DISCUSS THE SCHEDULING OF THE FINAL INFCE PLENARY WITH EKLUND AND HALL, STRESSING THAT THIS IS A DECISION FOR THE NOVEMBER 1978 PLENARY AND THAT A RANGE OF OPTIONS MIGHT BE DEVELOPED FOR DISCUSSION IN THE JUNE 1978 TCC MEETING.

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